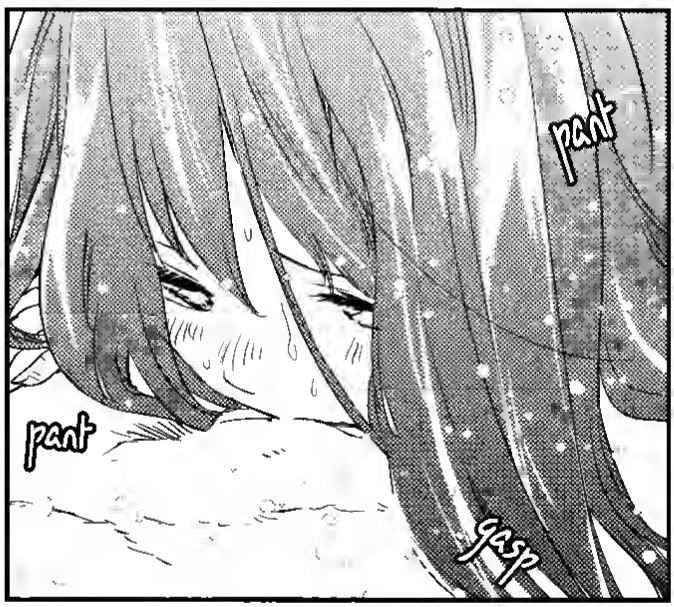
Chapter 7



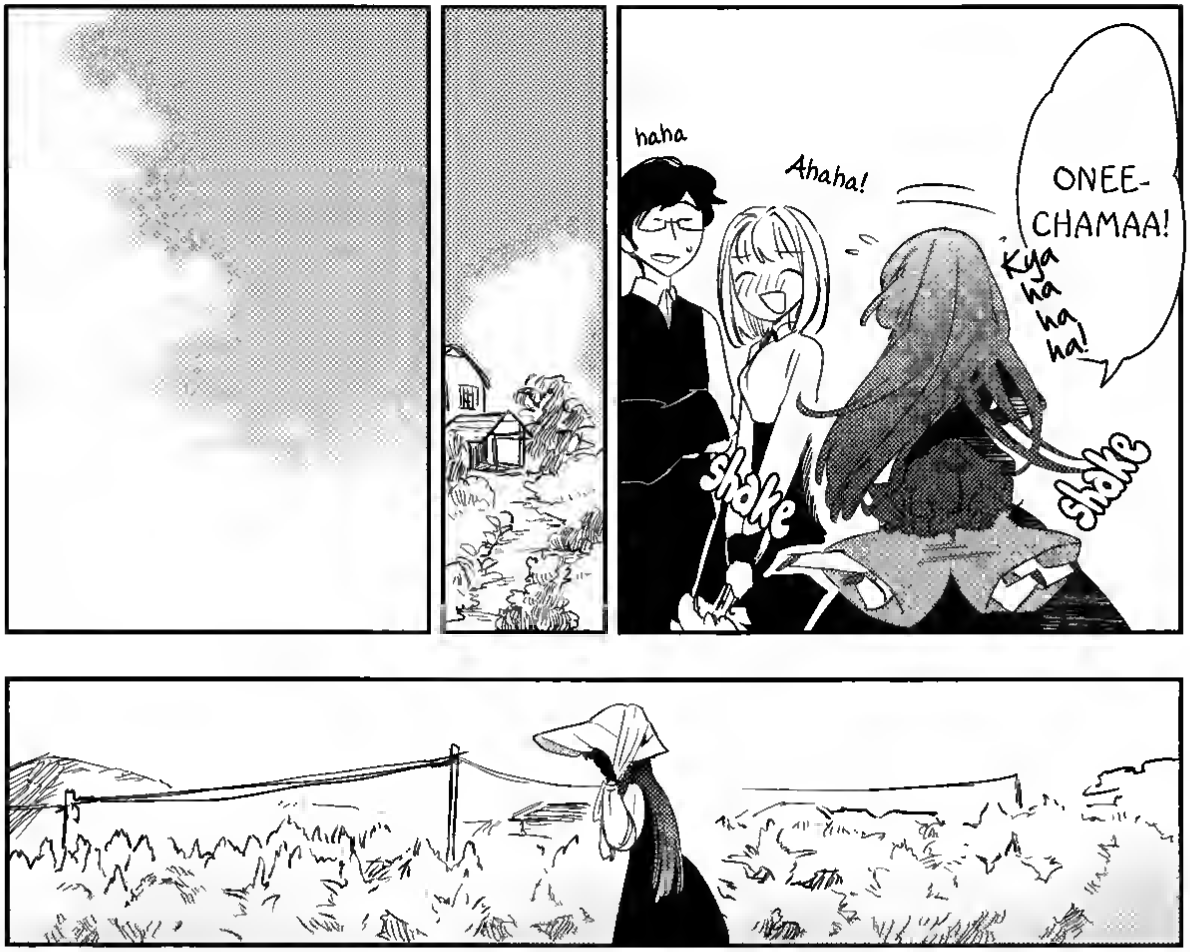
IT'D BE NICE IF YOU READ IT TOO.
THAT COLLECTION OF LOVE POEMS...
IT WAS VERY, VERY TOUCHING!
whoosh
I READ IT IN THE ORIGINAL, A LONG TIME AGO.
AAH, MAYBE I SHOULD TRY LEARNING FRENCH TOO.
IS THAT RIGHT?
...

You get distracted too easily, so you'd never stick with it.
I GUESS.
JUST THE MEMORY OF THOSE POEMS WARMS MY HEART!
I THINK I'LL GET THEM FLOWING PRETTY EASILY TODAY!
HERE I GO...

THANK YOU.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH...
step
step
step

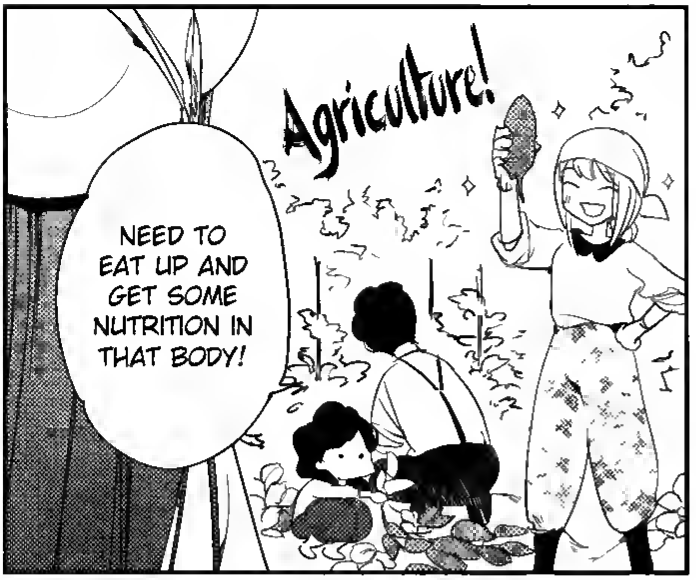
MAMA!
ONEE-CHAMA!
swing
dash
spill
MY, THANK YOU SO MUCH, MANAMI!
pat pat
extend
HERE!
grin

SHE WON'T OPEN UP THAT EASILY, HUH?
HAHA...
Ha!?
HERE, YOUR CROSS AND MANTLE ARE ALL CLEAN NOW.
WAA!!
leap

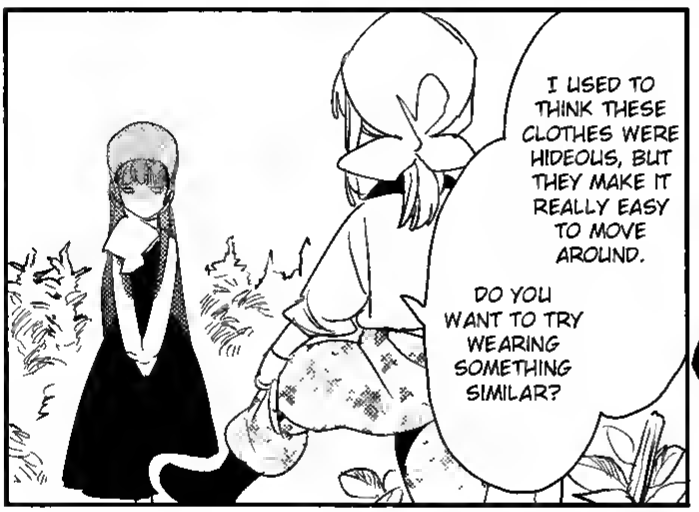

haha
Ahaha!
ONEE-CHAMAA!
Kya ha ha ha!
shake
shake

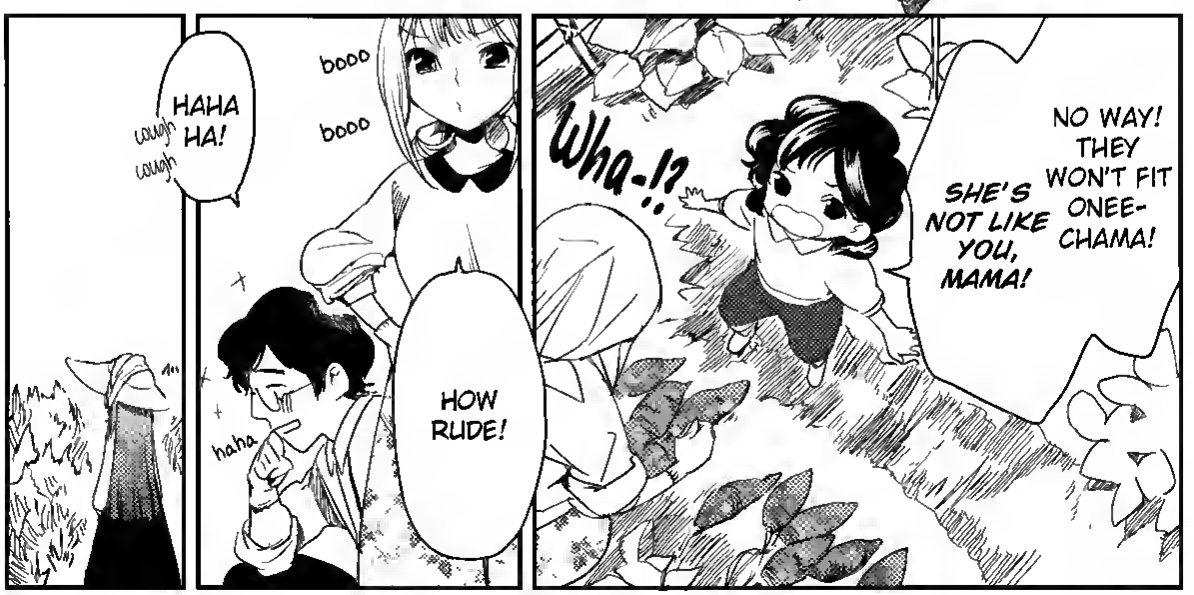
COME ON! YOU HELP OUT TOO!

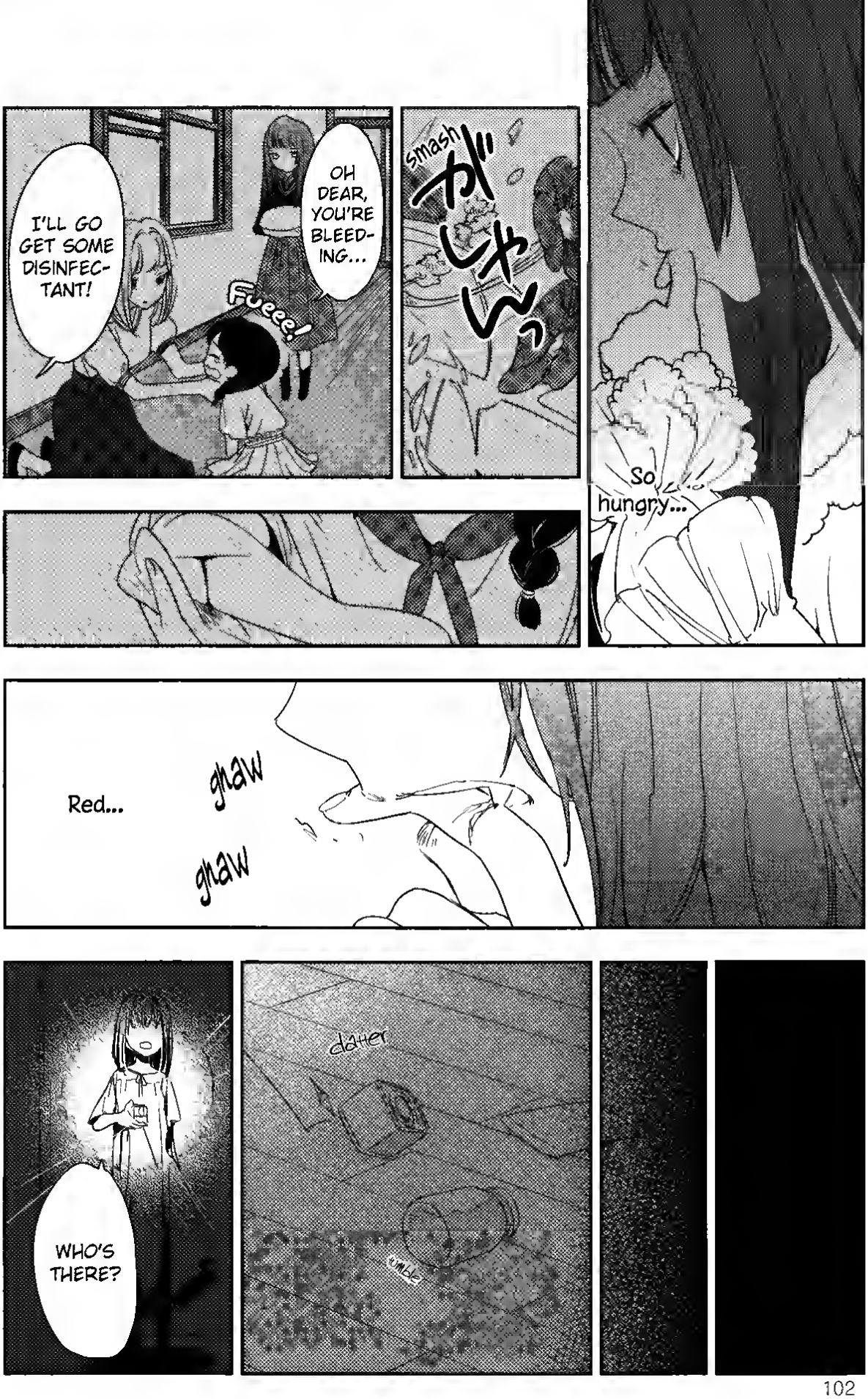
sniff


Agriculture!
NEED TO EAT UP AND GET SOME NUTRITION IN THAT BODY!

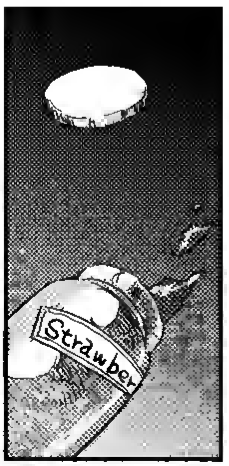
DEI YAAA !!!
rustle rustle rustle


I USED TO THINK THESE CLOTHES WERE HIDEOUS, BUT THEY MAKE IT REALLY EASY TO MOVE AROUND.
DO YOU WANT TO TRY WEARING SOMETHING SIMILAR?


HAHA HA!
cough cough
booo
booo
haha
HOW RUDE!
Wha-!?
SHE'S NOT LIKE YOU, MAMA!
NO WAY! THEY WON'T FIT ONEE-CHAMA!

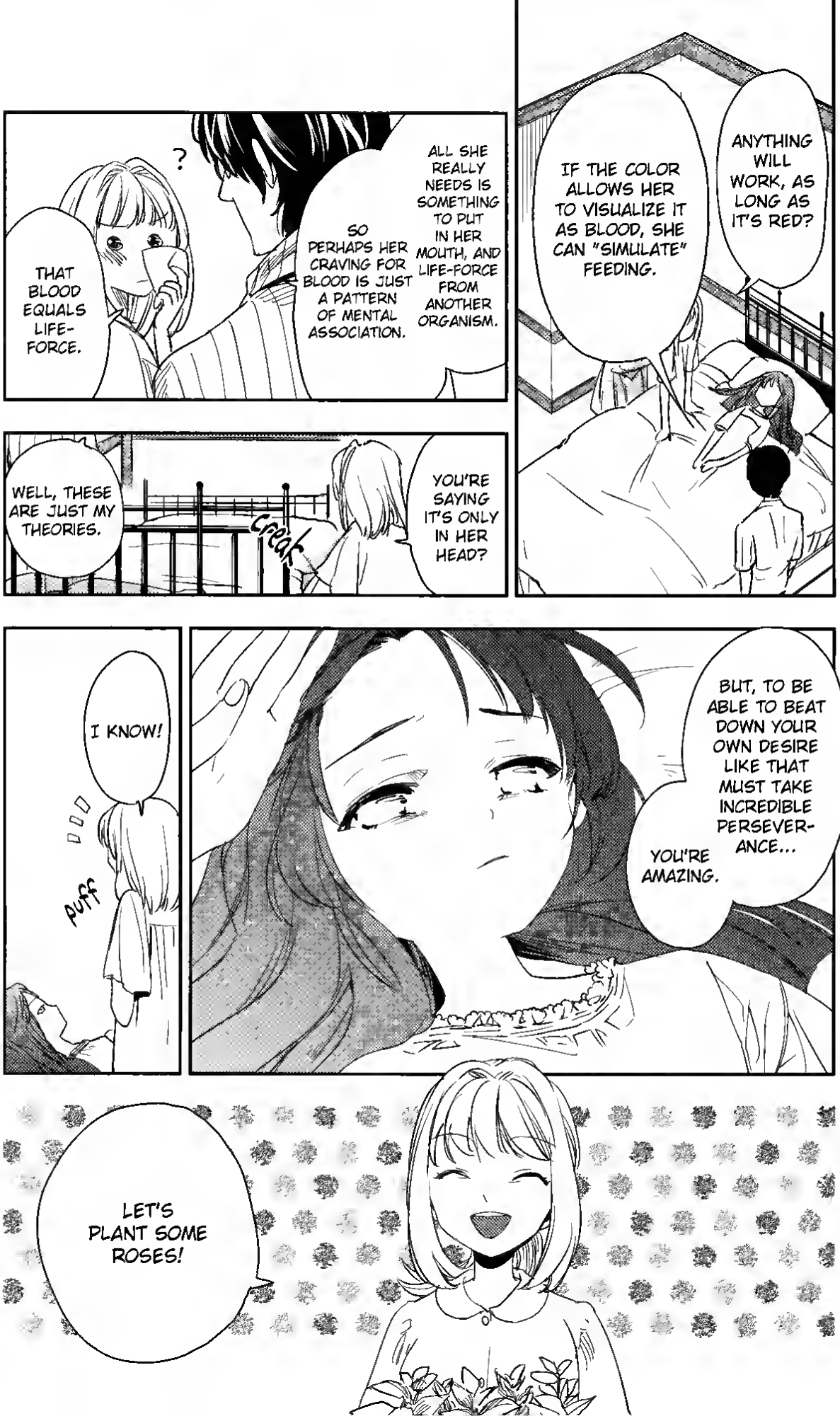

OH DEAR, YOU'RE BLEEDING...
I'LL GO GET SOME DISINFECTANT!
Fueee!
smash
ガシャン
So hungry...
Red...
gnaw
gnaw
WHO'S THERE?
clatter
tumble

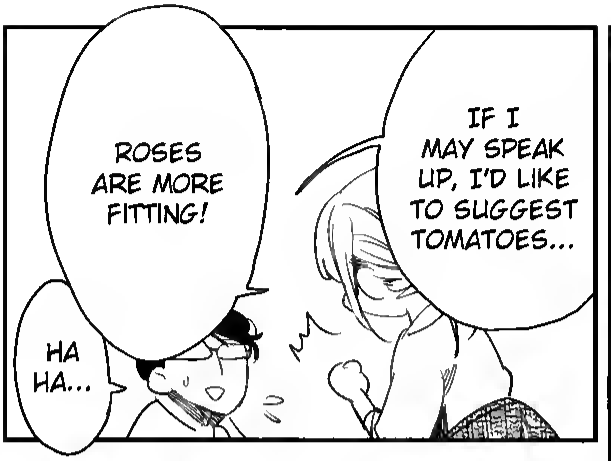
!!
ah
aah...


Strawber

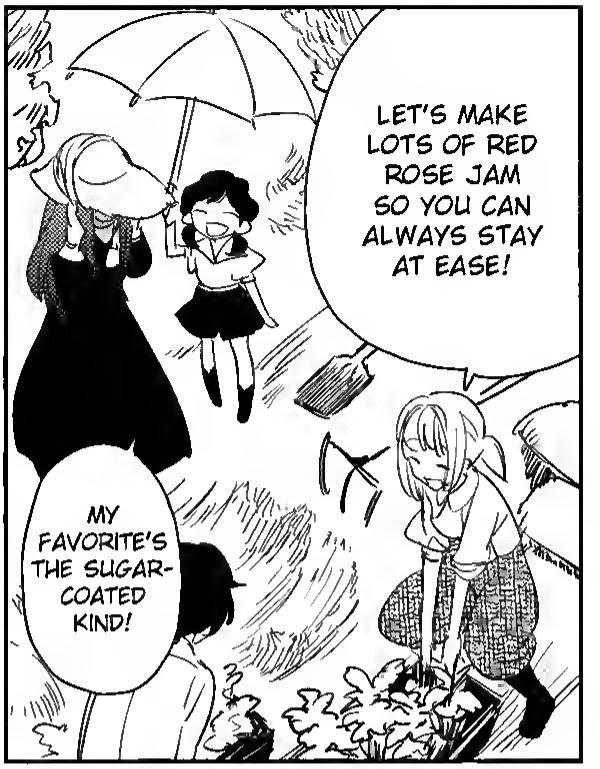
WH-WH-WH-WH- WHAT HAPPENED!?

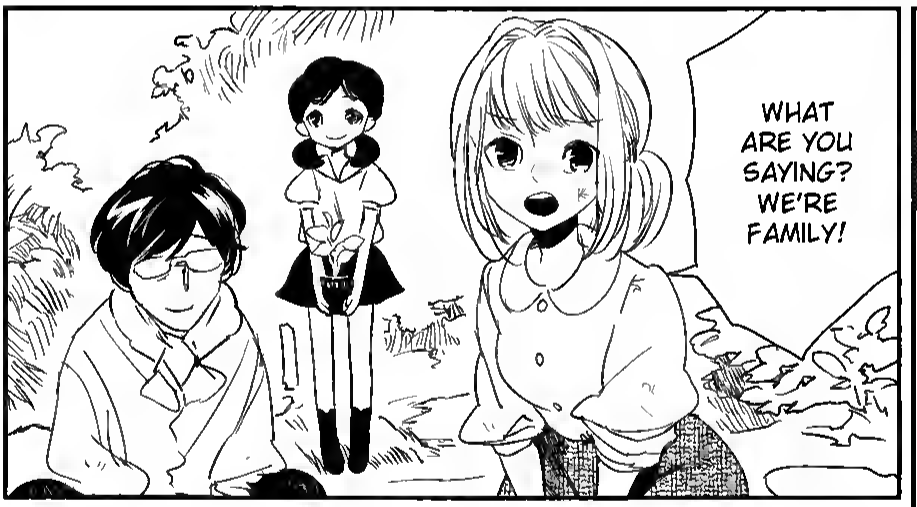
WHAT'S WRONG!? ARE YOU OKAY!?

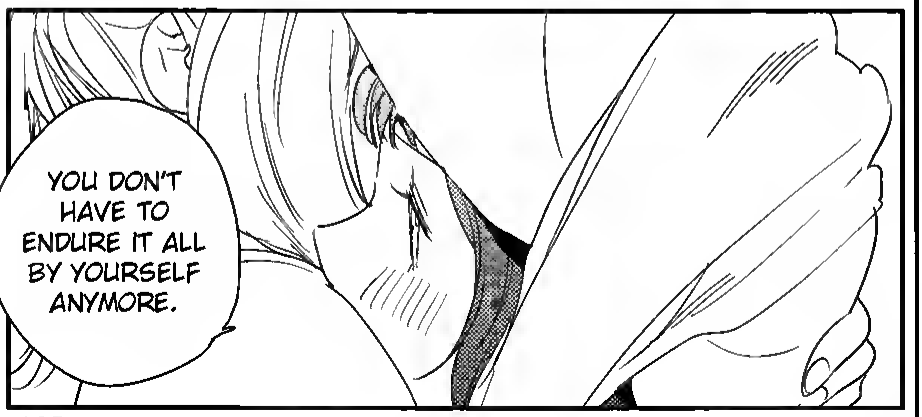

ANYTHING WILL WORK, AS LONG AS IT'S RED?
IF THE COLOR ALLOWS HER TO VISUALIZE IT AS BLOOD, SHE CAN "SIMULATE" FEEDING.
YOU'RE SAYING IT'S ONLY IN HER HEAD?
Creak
WELL, THESE ARE JUST MY THEORIES.
ALL SHE REALLY NEEDS IS SOMETHING TO PUT IN HER MOUTH, AND LIFE-FORCE FROM ANOTHER ORGANISM.
SO PERHAPS HER CRAVING FOR BLOOD IS JUST A PATTERN OF MENTAL ASSOCIATION.
?
THAT BLOOD EQUALS LIFE-FORCE.
BUT, TO BE ABLE TO BEAT DOWN YOUR OWN DESIRE LIKE THAT MUST TAKE INCREDIBLE PERSEVERANCE...
YOU'RE AMAZING.
I KNOW!
puff
LET'S PLANT SOME ROSES!

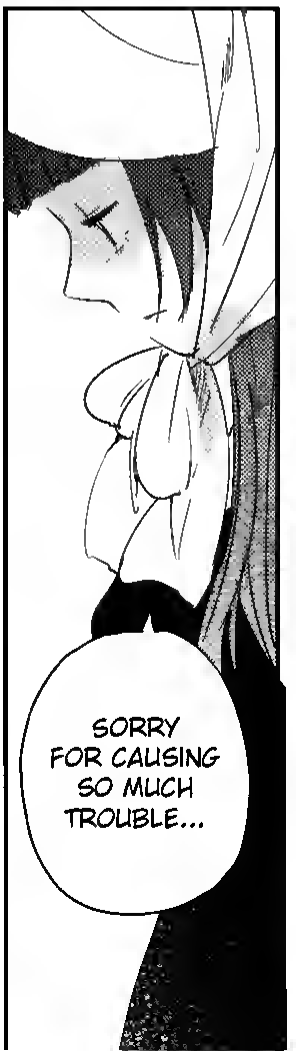

ROSES ARE MORE FITTING!
IF I MAY SPEAK UP, I'D LIKE TO SUGGEST TOMATOES...
HA HA...

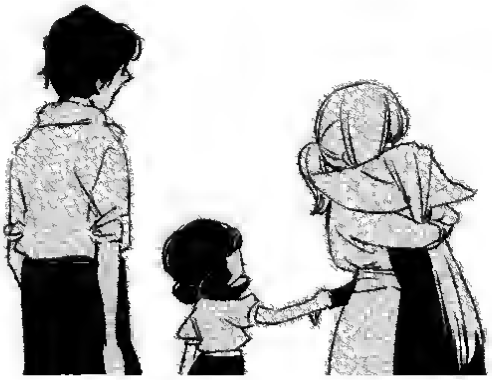
cough cough

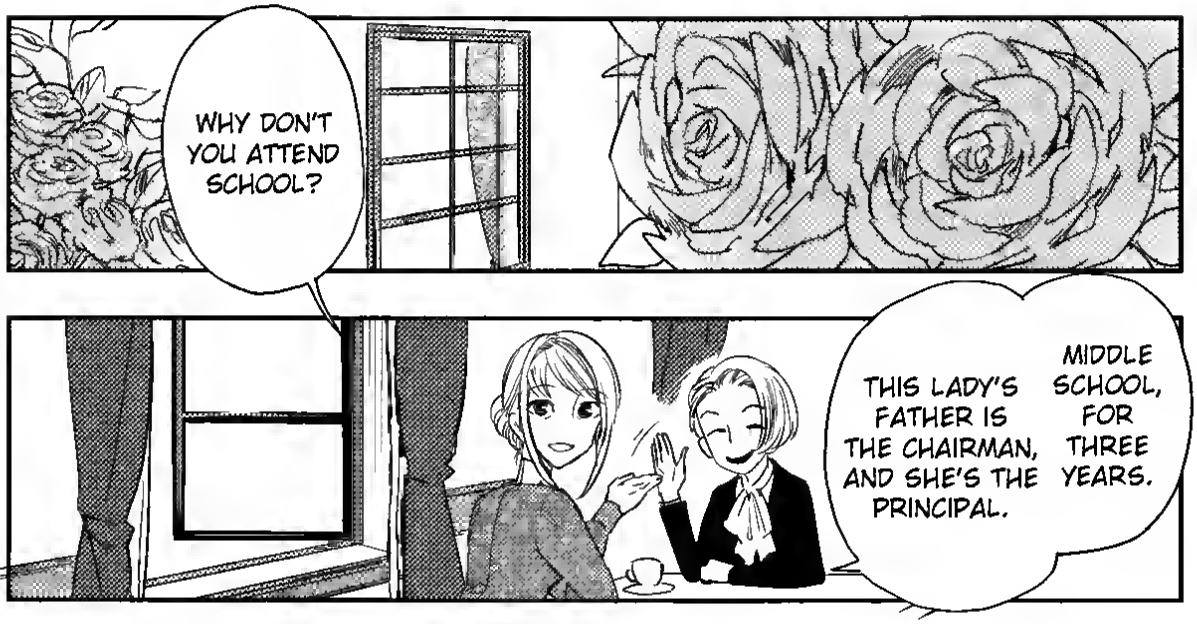

LET'S MAKE LOTS OF RED ROSE JAM SO YOU CAN ALWAYS STAY AT EASE!
MY FAVORITE'S THE SUGAR-COATED KIND!

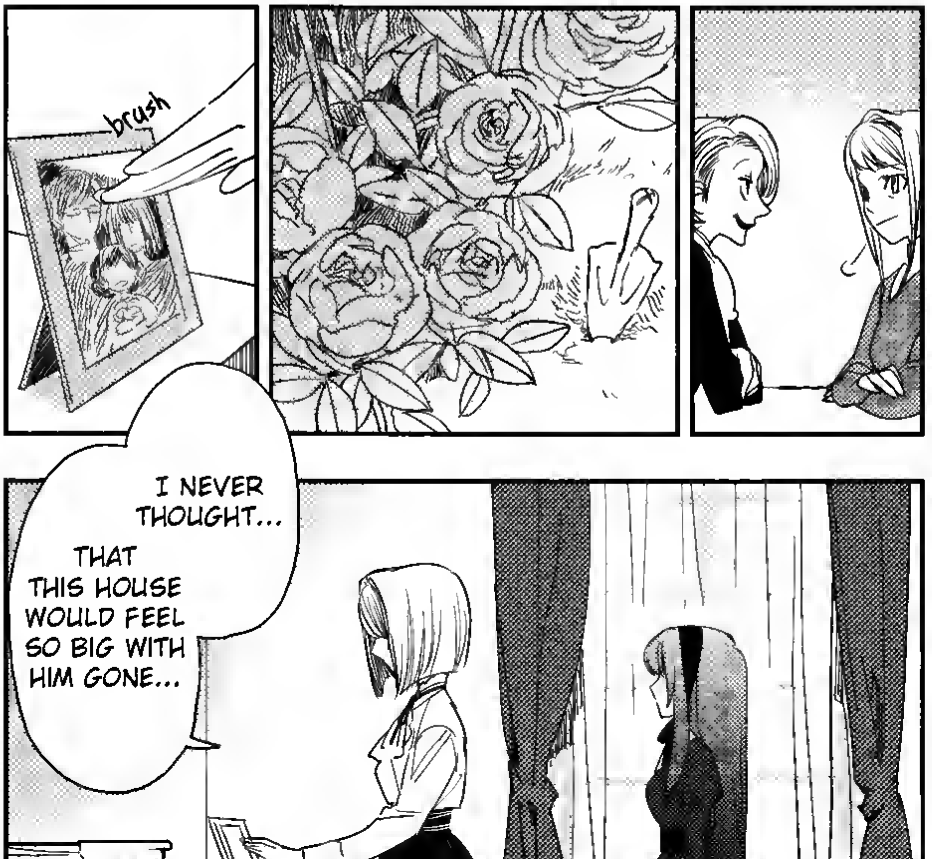

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WE'RE FAMILY!


YOU DON'T HAVE TO ENDURE IT ALL BY YOURSELF ANYMORE.


SORRY FOR CAUSING SO MUCH TROUBLE...



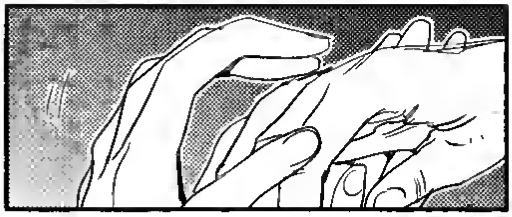

WHY DON'T YOU ATTEND SCHOOL?
THIS LADY'S FATHER IS THE CHAIRMAN, AND SHE'S THE PRINCIPAL.
MIDDLE SCHOOL, FOR THREE YEARS.


brush
I NEVER THOUGHT...
THAT THIS HOUSE WOULD FEEL SO BIG WITH HIM GONE...

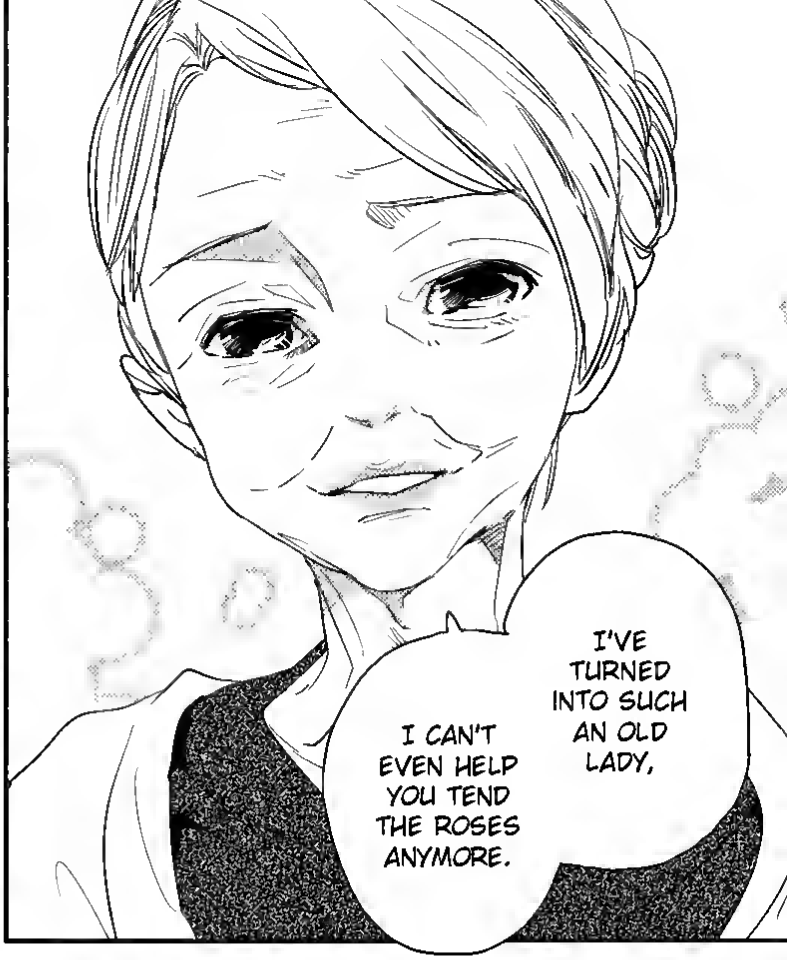
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
pouring
STUPID MAMA! WHY DO YOU KEEP SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT!?
YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT HOW I FEEL!
WAIT, MANAMI!
IF PAPA WERE HERE, THIS WOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED!
MANAMI SAYS SHE'S GOING TO A UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO...

SHE'S ALREADY ENROLLED. SHE'LL BE STAYING WITH SOME OF MY HUSBAND'S RELATIVES.
SAY, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY DAUGHTER, RIGHT?
.....
.....
YES.
I'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR DAUGHTER.

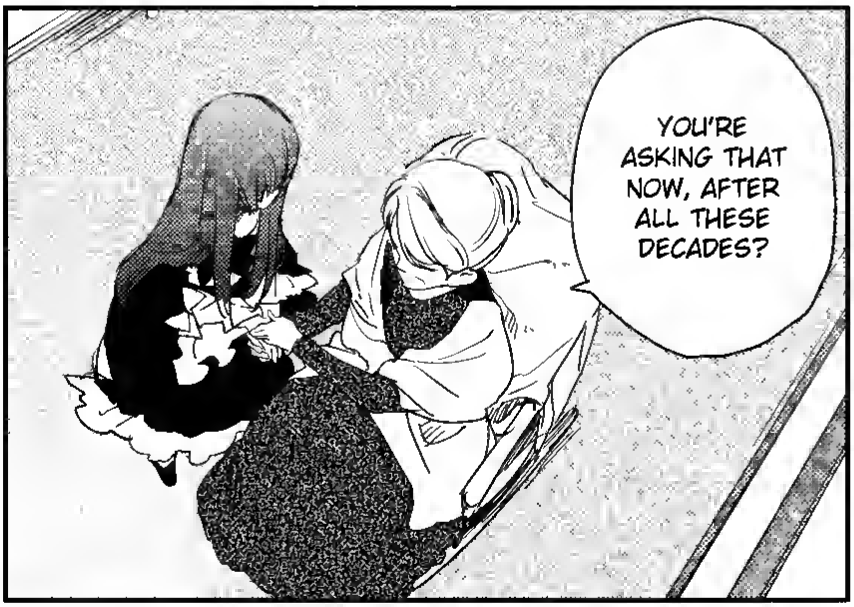
munch
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY?
I'M SO SORRY.



MAY I ASK SOMETHING? WHY DID YOU TAKE ME IN?


I'VE TURNED INTO SUCH AN OLD LADY,
I CAN'T EVEN HELP YOU TEND THE ROSES ANYMORE.

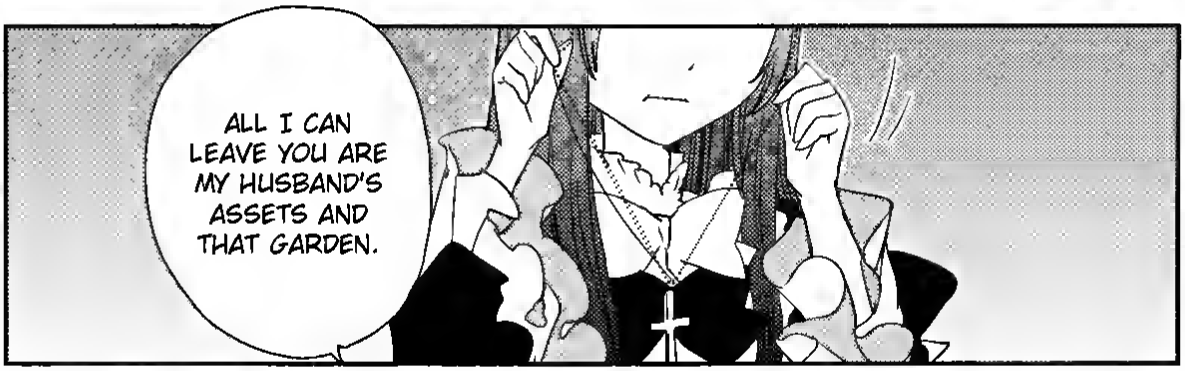
creak


YOU'RE ASKING THAT NOW, AFTER ALL THESE DECADES?

...BECAUSE YOU WERE SO BEAUTIFUL.

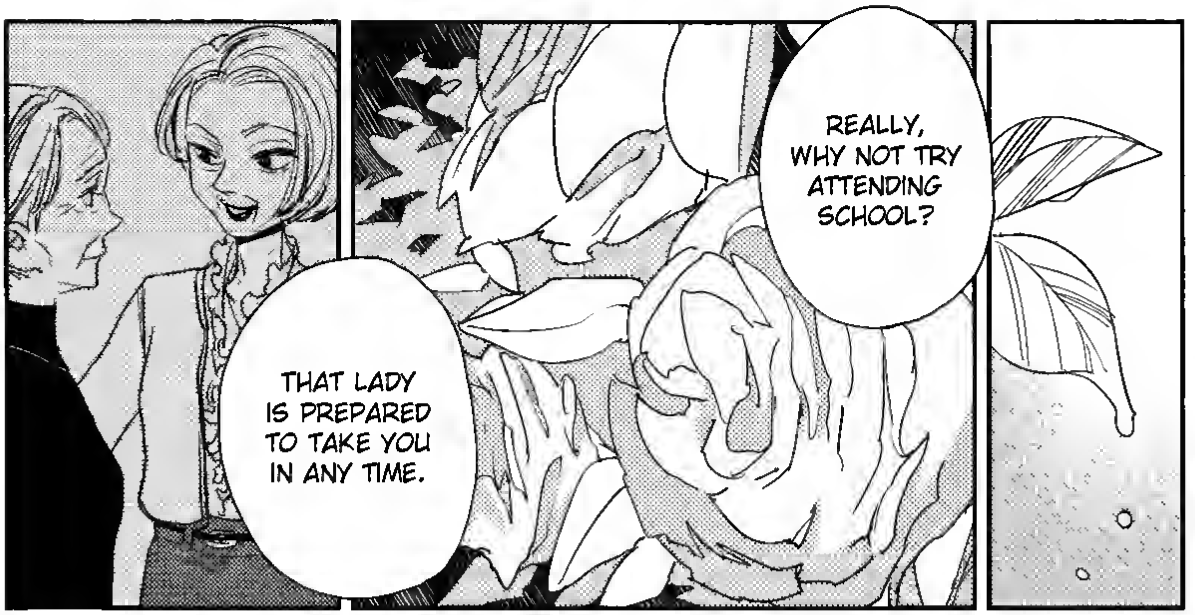
AND THE SAME FOR MY HUSBAND, AND MY DAUGHTER.

I FELT THAT AS LONG AS YOU WERE BY MY SIDE, I COULD LIVE EACH AND EVERY DAY HAPPILY.

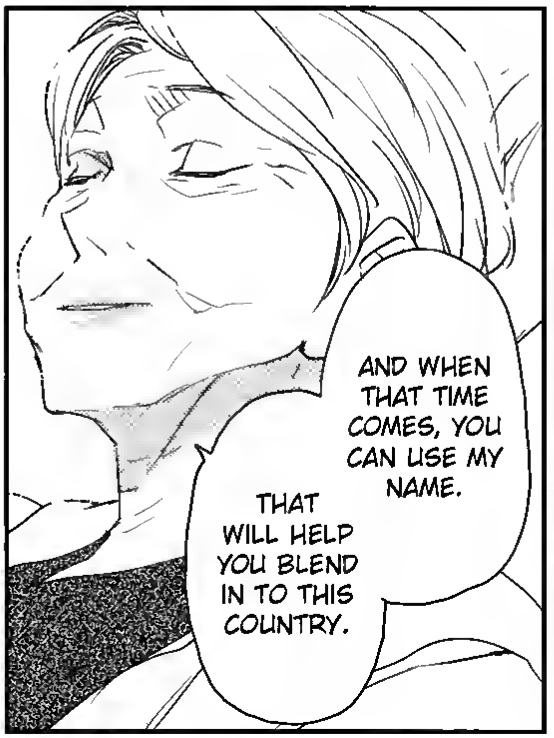

ALL I CAN LEAVE YOU ARE MY HUSBAND'S ASSETS AND THAT GARDEN.

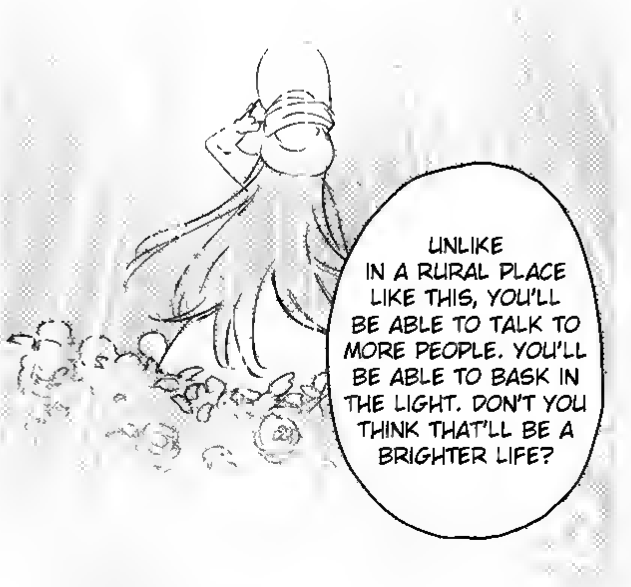
I'M AFRAID THAT I'LL LEAVE YOU ALL ALONE.

ARE YOU PASSING AWAY?

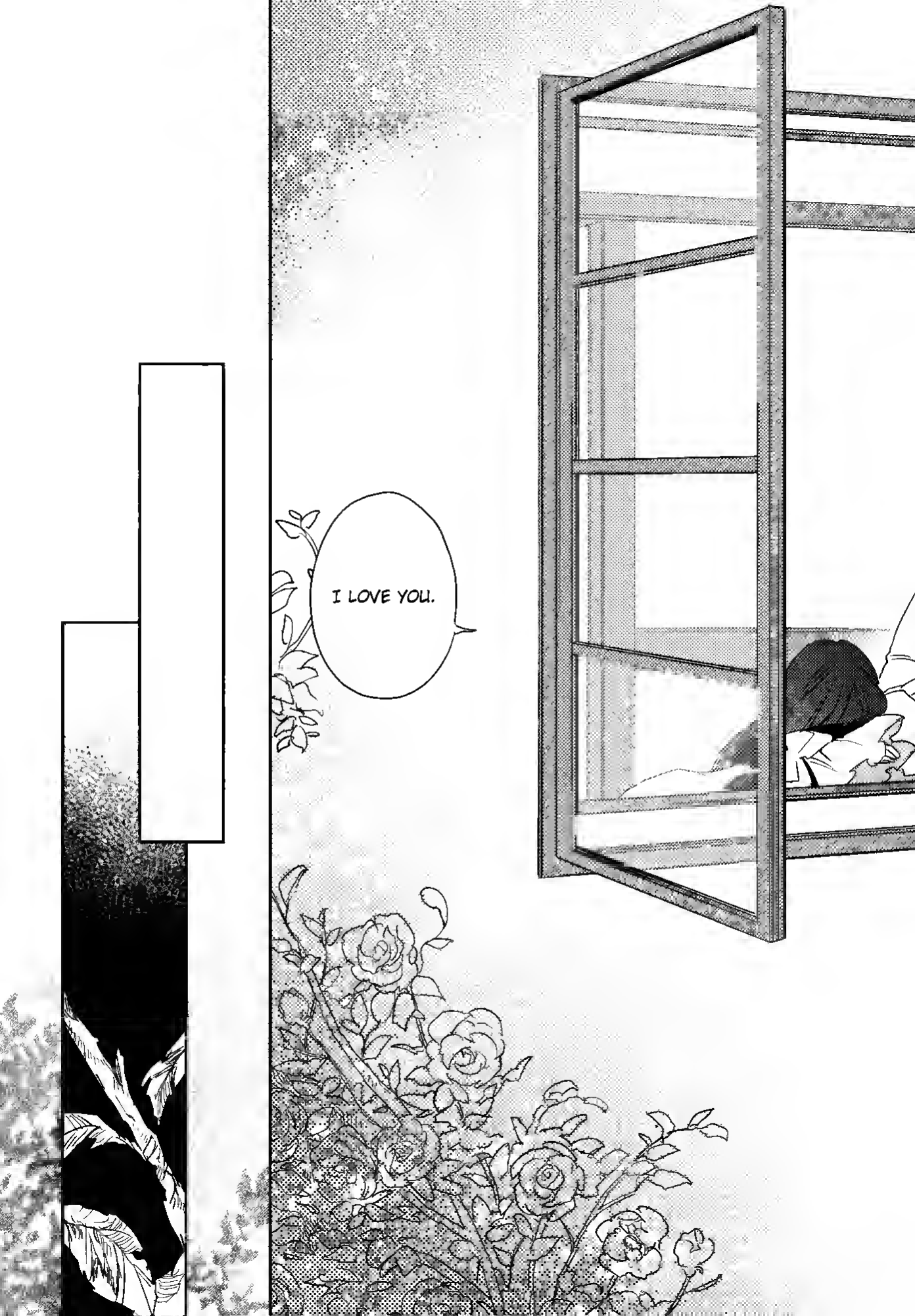

REALLY, WHY NOT TRY ATTENDING SCHOOL?
THAT LADY IS PREPARED TO TAKE YOU IN ANY TIME.

I DON'T LIKE SUN-LIGHT.

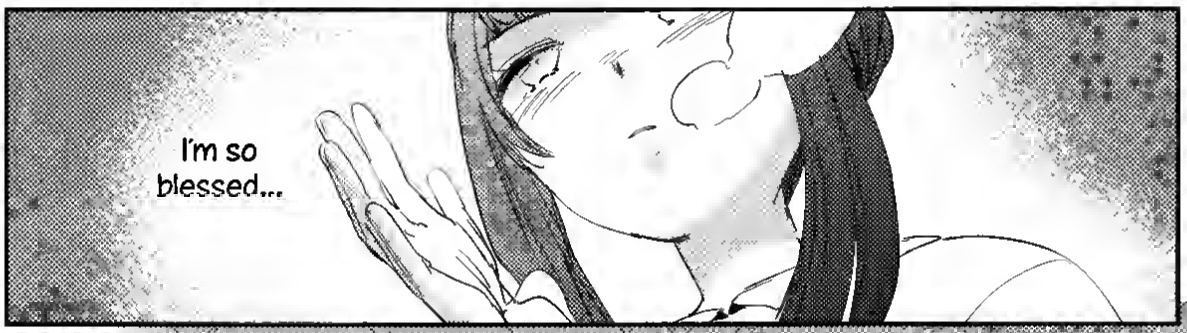

AND WHEN THAT TIME COMES, YOU CAN USE MY NAME.
THAT WILL HELP YOU BLEND IN TO THIS COUNTRY.

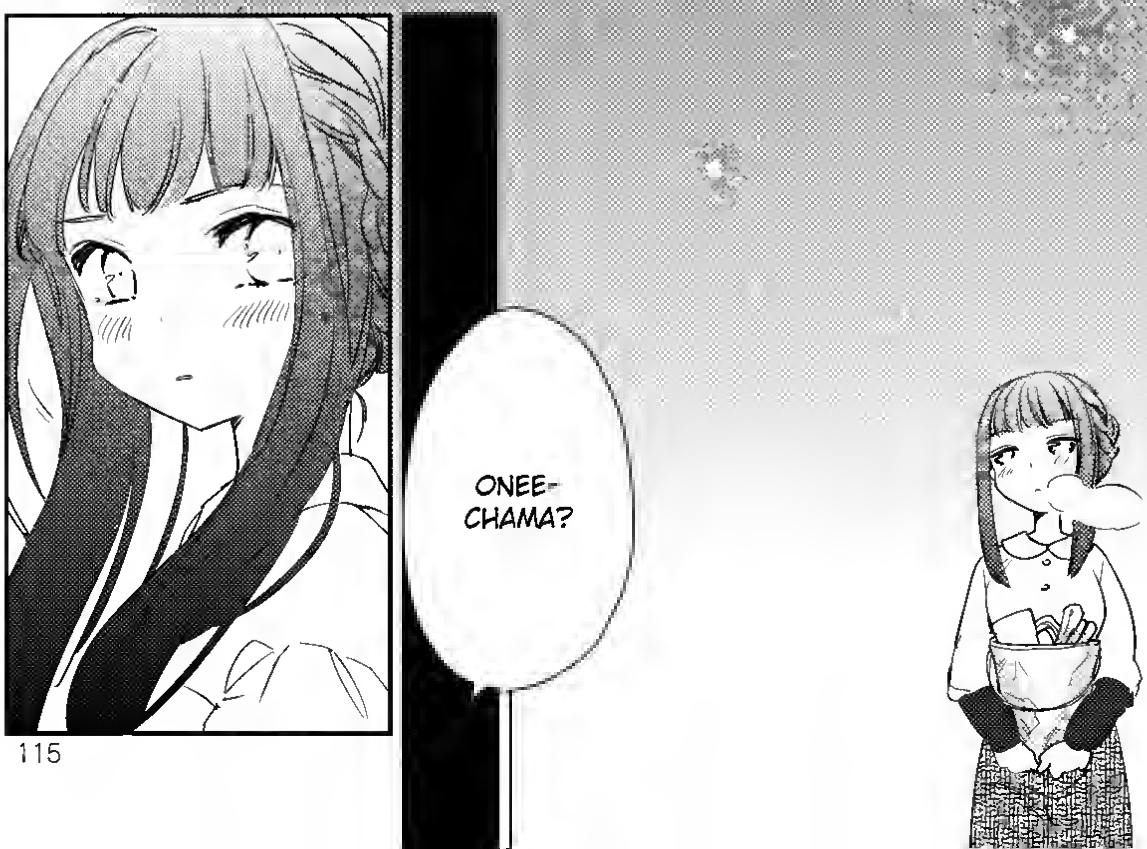

UNLIKE IN A RURAL PLACE LIKE THIS, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TALK TO MORE PEOPLE. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BASK IN THE LIGHT. DON'T YOU THINK THAT'LL BE A BRIGHTER LIFE?

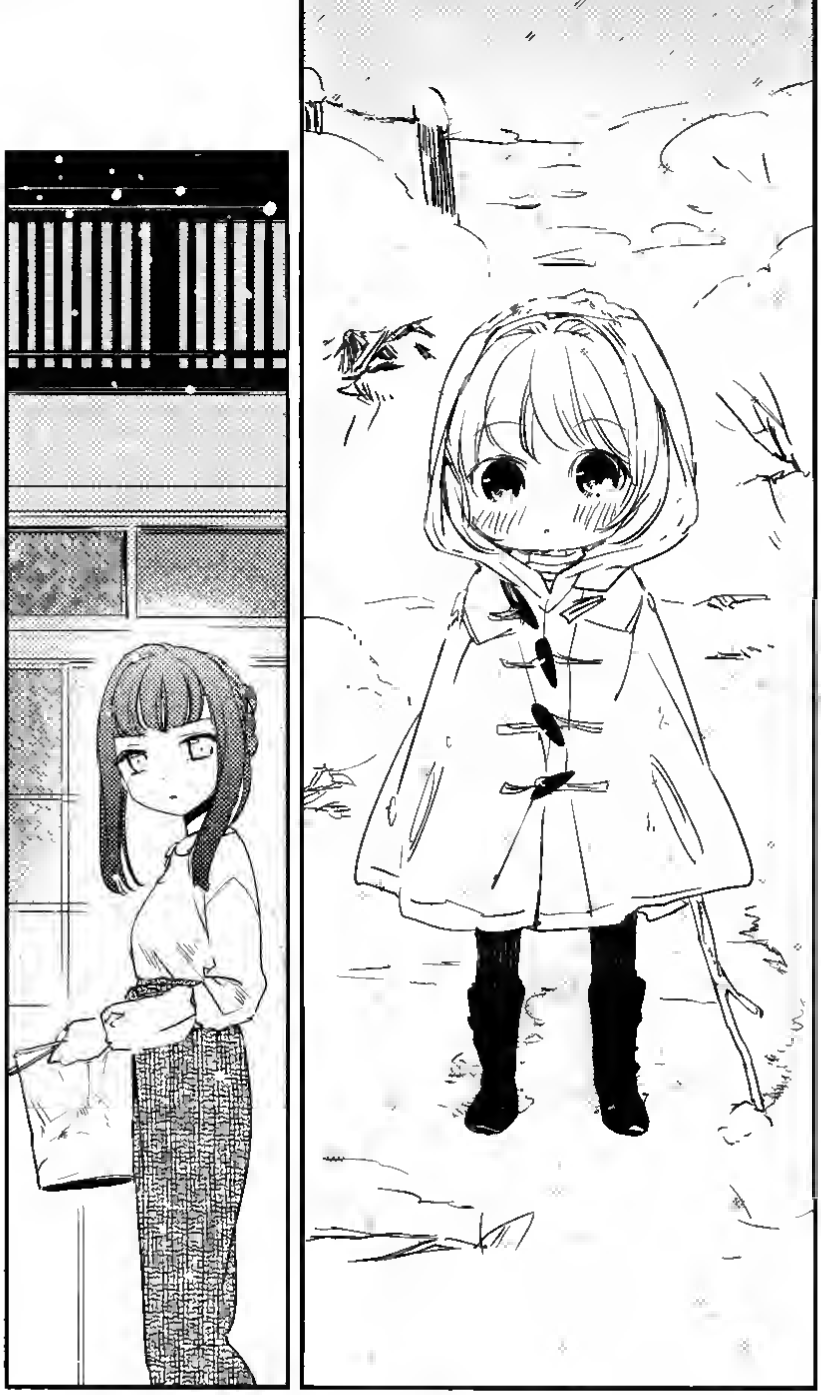
THEY REALLY ARE SIMILAR, AREN'T THEY?
YOUR NAME AND MINE.
THANK YOU...
AIRI.

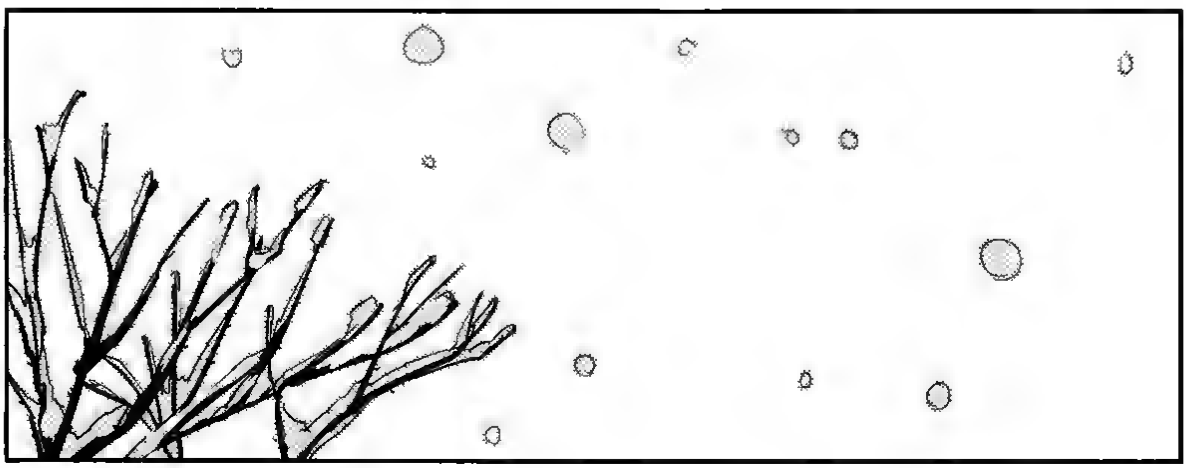

I LOVE YOU.

sniff
sniff


I'm so blessed...


ONEE-CHAMA?


Onee-
chama!



Another Kiss
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